

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1. (Currently amended) A plasmid expression vector which induces anti-HSV antibodies or protective immune responses upon introduction into vertebrate tissue, wherein said vector comprises at least one gene encoding at least one HSV protein or truncated protein, said gene or genes being operably linked to a transcription promoter selected from a group consisting of a cytomegalovirus promoter, a strong immunoglobulin promoter and a rous sarcoma virus promoter.

Claim 2. (Previously presented) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 1, wherein said gene encodes an HSV protein selected from a group consisting of gB, gC, gD, gH, gL, ICP27, and truncated gB.

Claim 3. (Previously presented) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 1 wherein said gene encodes a carboxy-terminal truncated gB protein.

Claim 4. (Previously presented) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 3 wherein said truncated gB deletion comprises the amino terminal 707 amino acids of wild type gB.

Claim 5. (Previously presented) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 4 which is V1Jns:ΔgB.

Claim 6. (Previously presented) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 2 wherein said gene encodes the HSV protein, gD.

Claim 7. (Previously presented) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 6 which is V1Jns:gD.

Claim 8. (Previously presented) A vaccine for inducing an immune response against HSV which comprises a first plasmid expression vector which expresses the HSV protein

gD and a second plasmid expression vector which expresses a carboxy-terminal truncated gB protein.

Claim 9. (Previously presented) A vaccine of claim 8 wherein said first plasmid expression vector is V1Jns:gD.

Claim 10. (Previously presented) A vaccine of claim 8 wherein said second plasmid expression vector is V1Jns:ΔgB.

Claim 11. (Previously presented) A vaccine of claim 10 wherein said first plasmid expression vector is V1Jns:gD.

Claim 12. (Previously presented) A method for inducing immune responses in a vertebrate against HSV epitopes which comprises introducing the vaccine according to Claim 11 into a tissue of a vertebrate.

Claim 13. (Currently amended) A vaccine ~~for inducing immune responses against HSV which comprises the plasmid expression vector of Claim 11 and~~ further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 14. (Previously presented) A method for inducing immune responses in a vertebrate against HSV epitopes which comprises introducing the plasmid expression vector according to Claim 1 into a tissue of a vertebrate.

Claim 15. (Previously presented) A vaccine for inducing immune responses against HSV which comprises the plasmid expression vector of Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 16. (Previously presented) A method for inducing immune responses in a vertebrate against HSV epitopes which comprises introducing the plasmid expression vector according to Claim 2 into a tissue of a vertebrate.

Claim 17. (Previously presented) A vaccine for inducing immune responses against HSV which comprises the plasmid expression vector of Claim 2 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 18. (New) A vaccine for inducing an immune response against HSV which comprises a plasmid expression vector comprising at least one gene encoding at least one HSV protein or truncated protein, said gene or genes being operably linked to a transcription promoter, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

Claim 19. (New) A vaccine of Claim 18, wherein said plasmid expression vector comprises a gene which encodes an HSV protein selected from a group consisting of gB, gC, gD, gH, gL, ICP27, and truncated gB.

Claim 20. (New) A vaccine of Claim 18, wherein said plasmid expression vector comprises a gene which encodes a carboxy-terminal truncated gB protein.

Claim 21. (New) A vaccine of Claim 20, wherein said plasmid expression vector comprises a truncated gB deletion comprising the amino terminal 707 amino acids of wild type gB.

Claim 22. (New) A vaccine of Claim 21, wherein the plasmid expression vector is V1Jns:ΔgB.

Claim 23. (New) A vaccine of Claim 19 wherein said plasmid expression vector comprises a gene which encodes the HSV protein, gD.

Claim 24. (New) A vaccine of Claim 23, wherein the plasmid expression vector is V1Jns:gD.

Claim 25. (New) A method for inducing immune responses in a vertebrate against HSV epitopes which comprises introducing the vaccine according to Claim 18 into a tissue of a vertebrate.

Claim 26. (New) A plasmid expression vector which induces anti-HSV antibodies or protective immune responses upon introduction into vertebrate tissue, wherein said vector comprises at least one gene encoding at least one HSV protein or truncated protein, said gene or genes being operably linked to a cytomegalovirus transcription promoter.

Claim 27. (New) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 26, wherein said gene encodes an HSV protein selected from a group consisting of gB, gC, gD, gH, gL, ICP27, and truncated gB.

Claim 28. (New) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 26, wherein said gene encodes a carboxy-terminal truncated gB protein.

Claim 29. (New) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 28, wherein said truncated gB deletion comprises the amino terminal 707 amino acids of wild type gB.

Claim 30. (New) The plasmid expression vector of Claim 27, wherein said gene encodes the HSV protein, gD.